



T H E
THEORY AND CONSTRUCTION
O F
HADLEY'S QUADRANT
DEMONSTRATED:

AND ALSO

All the necessary DIRECTIONS given for
ADJUSTING the GLASSES,

And using it for taking the

ALTITUDE of the SUN, MOON, and STARS,
FOR FINDING THE
LATITUDE AT SEA.

Illustrated by COPPER PLATE FIGURES,

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

Correct TABLES of the SUN'S DECLINATION,

WITH A

TABLE of the VARIATION of the SUN'S DECLINATION
In different LONGITUDES,

A TABLE of REFRACTION, &c. &c.

L O N D O N :

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The THEORY and Use of HADLEY'S QUADRANT demonstrated.

IT is not to be supposed that any Person can understand the Use of any optical instrument whatsoever, who is not acquainted with the *first Principle* (or rather *Axiom*) of OPTICS, *viz.* That in Case of Light falling on, and reflected from any polished Surface, or *Speculum*, the *Angle of Incidence* is ever equal to the *Angle of Reflection*.

This Principle is demonstrated by *Writers* on OPTICS, both from Reason and Experiment, and is easily illustrated by Figure first.

Let EF be a *Speculum*, or plain Looking-glass, on which a Ray of Light SD falls in the Point D : then if the Line PD be perpendicular to the Glass in the Point D ; and make the Angle PDO equal to the Angle PDS , the Line DO will be the *reflected Ray*; and in all Cases the *Angle of Incidence* SDP will ever be equal to the *Angle of Reflection* PDO .

If DM be an Index fixed at Right-angles to the back Part of the *Speculum* FE in the Point D , it will then be in the Direction of the Perpendicular PD ; and supposing the incident Ray SD continued from D to L , then by inclining or moving the Index DM towards DL , the Glass FE will have the same Motion on the Point or Center D , and at Length arrive to the Situation AB , during which Time the Perpendicular PD will gradually approach to the incident Ray SD , and, at last, coincide with it.

But as the Perpendicular PD approaches the Ray SD , the Angle of Incidence PDS is constantly decreasing. and therefore, also, the Angle of Reflection PDO , which is always equal to it. And when PD coincides with SD , or DM with DL , then both these Angles vanish; and the incident Ray is reflected back upon itself, or in the same Perpendicular Direction from D to S .

In the Time the Perpendicular PD moves through the Arch PS , the reflected Ray DO moves through the Arch OS , which is double the Arch PS . Therefore the Motion of the reflected Ray OD is twice as quick as the Motion of the Perpendicular PD , or of the Index DM , or of the Glass itself FE .

Again let AB (Fig 2,) represent the large Glass of *Hadley's Quadrant*, moveable about the Center C of the Instrument,

ment, by means of the Index on which it is fixed; and let PC be Perpendicular thereto in the Point C ; then if a Ray of Light, as HC , fall upon it in the Point C , it will be so reflected as to make the Angle of Incidence HCP equal to the Angle of Reflection PCG ; and therefore, by describing on the Center C the Circle MGL , and making the Arch PG equal to PH , the Line CG will be the reflected Ray.

For, let F be the smaller Glass in a position FN , parallel to that of the larger one AB , and suppose FQ Perpendicular thereto; then, again, the Ray of Light CG falling on this Glass in the Point F , will be so reflected, that the Angle CFQ will be equal to the Angle QFI , if FI be the reflected Ray.

Now because the two Glasses AB , and F , are in a parallel Position, therefore the Perpendiculars PC and FQ will also be parallel; therefore the right Line CF which crosses them in C and F will make the alternate Angles PCF and CFQ equal; and consequently, the Angle HCP will be equal to the Angle QFI , which proves that the Ray FI , after two Reflections, is parallel to the incident Ray HC .

Hence it follows, that in all positions of the Quadrant (while the Glasses remain parallel to each other) the Eye at I will view any very distant Object in the same Place by the reflected Ray FI , as it would do by the incident Ray at O , if the Glass AB were removed. Hence the Reason of adjusting the Quadrant by a distant Object, either the Horizon itself, or any other remote Object, since in such a Case, the Object seen by the direct Ray HC , and the Image shewn by the reflected Ray FI do coincide, or appear in one and the same Place.

But this will not be the Case when the Object is so near, that the Line or Distance CS subtends at the Object a sensible Angle, because then the Incident and reflected Rays HC and FI intersect each other; and therefore the object and Image, in the Glass at F , will appear in two different Places.

If the position of the small Glass (Fig 3.) F be Perpendicular to that of the large Glass AB , or TFN perpendicular to ABD , and the Line QF perpendicular to the said Glass in F ; then the Angle HCP is equal to the Angle PCF , as before; and also the Angle CFQ is equal to the Angle QFI ; therefore the Angle CFN is equal to the Angle IFT ; but TN is parallel to PC ; therefore the Angle CFN is equal to the Angle FCP , and also to the Angle PCH ; consequently the Angle TFI is equal to the Angle PCH . But TF is parallel to PC , therefore the reflected Ray IF is parallel to the incident Ray HC . Wherefore the Image of an Object, at a great Distance, is seen at R , by an Eye at I in the same right Line with the Object itself, but in an

an opposite Part of the Hemisphere; which gives the Reason, why the Second, or lowermost of the small Glasses is placed in that Position on the Side of the Quadrant for the Back-observation.

If while the Glass F retains its Position (as in Fig 2.) the large Glass A B be moved on the Index from its parallel Position in A D to any other as A X (Fig. 3.) then while the Index C X describes the Angle D C X, the Perpendicular P C will describe the equal Angle P C p. In this Situation of the Glasses, let M C be the incident Ray, and F I the last reflected One, produce M C till it intersects the reflected Ray in I; then will the Angle M I F be equal to twice the Angle D C X.

For in this Case the Angle by the first Reflection is increased from G C H to G C M, by the excess H C M; but the Half the Angle G C M is G C p, and its Excess above G C P (the Half of G C H) is the Angle P C p; therefore the whole Excess H C M of the whole Angle G C M above G C H must be equal to twice the Angle P C p, or twice the Angle D C X; but since H O is parallel to F I, the Angle M C H is equal to the Angle M I F; consequently the Angle M I F, is equal to double the Angle D C X; therefore the Angle M C H (equal to M I F) is also double the Angle D C X.

Or thus; since the Glass F is immoveable, and also the Point C, which is the Center of the moveable Glass A B; it is easy to understand that the Rays C F and F I will each of them be fixed; and therefore the Ray C F may be considered as falling on the Glass A B in the Point C, and thereby reflected in the direction C M; but C M, considered as the reflected Ray, has twice the Motion of the reflecting Glass A B, or its Index A X; that is, while the Index moves from D to X, the Ray is reflected from H to M, and the Arch H M is double the Arch D X, as we shewed in the Beginning was always the Case in a single Reflection.

It now appears by Demonstration, that by moving the Index over any Number of Degrees on the Limb of the Quadrant, you measure an Arch in the Heavens just equal to twice that Number of Degrees. And therefore the Octant, or eighth Part of a Circle, is, by this Construction, rendered equivalent to a Quadrant or fourth Part of a Circle for measuring Angles.

But the greatest Advantage of this Instrument, and by which it excels all others for Sea-use, consists in this, that the Image of an Object, by the second Reflection, is quiescent, or at Rest while the Quadrant is in Motion; I mean that Motion which is made in a vertical Plane passing through the Object. For let the Instrument have what Position it will in that Plane, the Angle M I F is not thereby affected or altered, and consequently the Position of the last reflected Ray is the same, and therefore

therefore the apparent Place, or Image of the Object, must necessarily be invariable, or at rest.

To demonstrate this in the easiest Case, we need only consider, that as the Quadrant moves on the Point C, or Axis of the Glass A B (Fig. 2.) the Perpendicular P C will be carried to, or from the fixed Line H O, and thereby the Angle P C H becomes diminished or encreased; but the Angle P C F will ever be equal to P C H; and because the Perpendicular Q F is always (in this Case) parallel to P C, therefore the Angle C F Q is equal to P C F; and consequently C F I is always equal to F C H; therefore the reflected Ray F I is parallel to H C constantly, and will of Course shew the Object ever in the *same Place*, or *at Rest*. The Reasoning is the same for Fig. 2, and 3, or any other Position of the Glasses, provided they are parallel to each other when the Index is at the Beginning of the Degrees on the Limb of the Quadrant.

If the Quadrant liberates sideways, or has a Motion contrary to the former, there will, indeed, be a Motion of the Image produced, because, since the Image is always formed in the Plane of Reflection, which passes through the Object and the Eye of the Spectator; it is evident, if that Plane be changed, the Place of the Image must change with it, and a Motion of the Image will be the effect of such a Motion of the Instrument. But then this Motion is so far from being detrimental, that on the contrary, it is of very great Use in many Cases, which the Mariner very well knows.

These are all the essential Particulars which constitute the Nature and Theory of this capital Instrument; the Form of which as it is fitted for Use, with a *Nonius*, is that in Fig. 5.

The Quadrant thus finished being applied in the usual Manner to take Altitudes by reducing all celestial Objects to the Level or *Edge of the Sea*, which I call the *Marine Horizon*, in Contradistinction to the *true* or *natural Horizon*.

To explain this Matter (Fig. 6.) let A B D be a Part of the Surface of the Sea; C, the Center of the Earth; A C, its Semidiameter equal to 43946552 *English* Feet. Then if A H be any Height to which the Eye is elevated above the Surface of the Sea at A, and through the Point H you draw H O perpendicular to H C, that Line H O will be the *true Horizon*: and if from the Point H you draw H E to touch the Surface of the Sea in some Point B; then is the Line H E the *Marine Horizon*, or that which appears to the Eye. Lastly, the Angle contained between the two, *viz.* the Angle O H E is called the *Dip of the Marine, or visible Horizon*.

Hence, when the Altitude of the Sun or Star at S is taken by the Quadrant, the Angle measured on the Limb is S H E, greater than the true Altitude S H O, by the said Dip, or Angle

Angle OHE , which therefore must be subducted from the measured Altitude in the *fore Observation*

The Quantity of the Dip, or Angle OHE is computed from the Triangle BCH , right angled at B , in which the Side BC is known, and also the Side CH when the Height of the Eye AH is given.

Besides this, there is another Correction of the apparent Altitude of Objects measured by the Quadrant; for by Reason of the Refraction of Light through the Atmosphere, or Body of Air, the Places of all Bodies are raised higher above the Horizon than what they really are; so that suppose S the true Place of the Sun or Star, its apparant Place will be at I by this Refraction of the Air. And it is the Angle or Arch GE which is measured by the Instrument, and not the Arch FE , which is the real Altitude above the Sea; and therefore from the measured Arch GE we subtract on one Hand the Dip of the Marine Horizon OE ; and on the other, the Arch FG , the Quantity of Refraction; and then we get the Remainder FO for the true Altitude required, of the Object at S .

If we have Regard to the Zenith Distance ZF of the Object S , it is plain, that is made less by Refraction, being only ZG ; therefore the Arch FG is to be added to the apparent or measured Zenith Distance to have the true Zenith Distance ZF , of the Sun or Star at S .

The more obliquely the Rays fall on the Atmosphere, the greater will be the Refraction, and consequently the horizontal Refraction will be greatest of all, and at the Zenith, where the Rays are perpendicular there will be no Refraction at all. The Altitude observed, must therefore be corrected by a Table of Refraction, you will find in the Book.

Description and Use of the OCTANT, when complete as Fig. 5.

THIS instrument is made from 4 to 18 inches radius:
The parts of which are,

- The Index D .
- The Index-Glass I .
- The Horizon-Glasses B, F .
- The Screens H, H .

The eight vanes EE , and the graduated arch AC , which contains only the eighth part of the circumference of a circle, or 45 degrees, divided into 90 primary divisions, which by the laws of Catoptrics, answer to degrees, (as before observed) and are numbered 0, 10, 20, &c. to 90. Each degree is divided into

into 3 parts of 20 minutes each, which, by the help of the Nonius, or Vernier's scale, are subdivided into minutes of a degree.

The INDEX D.

Is a flat rod or bar, moveable on the centre of the instrument, and that part of the index, which slides over the graduated arch AC, is open in the middle to see the divisions cut by the Nonius; by the help of which an angle or altitude may be measured to a minute. On the bottom of the index, against the back of the arch, there is a screw to keep the index fast when required.

The INDEX-GLASS I

Is a piece of glass, truly ground, silvered on the back, and set in a brass frame. The use of this glass is to receive the rays coming from an object, and to reflect them to the horizon-glasses. Behind this glass are screws to set it perpendicular to the plane of the instrument.

The HORIZON-GLASSES B, F.

Are smaller pieces of ground glass, one part of which is silvered (the other part left transparent to view an object direct) set in frames, and placed on the limb at B and F, to receive the rays of an object reflected from the index-glass, and to reflect it again to the eye, looking through the holes in the sight vanes. Both these glasses are mounted on adjusting plates with screws, by which the glasses may be adjusted when necessary. F is used for a fore-observation, and B for the back-observation.

The SCREENS H, H.

Are pieces of coloured glass, ground and set in frames; their use is to take off the glare of the sun's rays, when too strong for the eye.

The SIGHT VANES E, E.

Are two pieces of brass standing perpendicular to the plane of the instrument; the vane for the fore-observation has two small holes in it: the inner one for more readily viewing the reflected image of stars, or faint objects, on the edge of the silvered part of the horizon-glass; the other for viewing the image of the sun, when bright, from the polished surface of the unsilvered part.

The Nonius, or Vernier, is a small piece of sloping, or feather-edged ivory, brass or box-wood, graduated and fastened to the bottom of the opening of the index; but often the lower part of the opening is graduated for the Nonius, which is numbered thus, 10—15—0—5—10; or thus, 10—15—Δ—5—10; sometimes thus, 20—15—10—5—0, and slides upon the graduations of the arch.

The

The arch, as before observed, is divided into 90 degrees, numbered 10, 20, 30, &c. and each degree into 3 parts, each 20 minutes, and is to be read thus: 1d.—1d. 20m.—1d. 40m.—2d.—2d. 20m.—2d. 40m.—3d. &c. observing to read to the division that the o, or diamond-like point, of the Nonius last passed over; then the Nonius will give the number of minutes more, to be added to the division last passed by the Nonius. Thus, suppose the o, or Δ of the Nonius has passed over 12 degrees and two parts, or 12d. 40m. and stands somewhere between 12d. 40m. and 13d. then observe what division or line on the Nonius coincides with any division or line on the arch, that number on the Nonius will be the minutes to be added to 12d. 40m. Suppose 15 on the Nonius touches some division on the arch, then 15m. must be added to 12d. 40m. and the angle or altitude measured will be 12d. 55m.

N. B. No two lines on the Nonius, except the two tens, can exactly coincide with the lines on the graduated arch, if the instrument be well divided.

This instrument, though it come perfectly adjusted from the maker's hands, which is not always the case, is liable to be put out of order by many accidents, such as lying in the sun; and the spray of the sea causing it to warp, or expanding and contracting the frame; sometimes a fall, &c. It is therefore necessary, that the mariner should be able to verify and re-adjust the several parts of his instrument at sea.

First, the index-glass must be perpendicular to the plane of the quadrant, which, if not, will be easily discovered by the following method: Hold the plane of the quadrant in an horizontal position, with the index-glass near the eye; look right down the quadrant, in such a manner as to see the arch of the quadrant direct, and at the same time reflected, by the index-glass, then if the reflected image, and the arch seen direct, make as it were but one plane, the glass is perpendicular to the plane of the instrument; on the contrary, if the arch and its reflected image do not appear to make one continued right plane, it shews the index-glass must have an inclination, and this must be rectified by the adjusting screws behind the frame of the index-glass. It is easy to discover which way the inclination is, by pressing the index-glass with your thumb while you observe the arch.*

Secondly, the axis of the horizon-glasses must be parallel to the axis of the index-glass, if not, the error is easily discovered and rectified in the fore horizon-glass, when the index-glass is adjusted. Thus, bring o on the Nonius nearly to o on the graduated arch, and look directly through the sight vane

* This accurate method of adjusting the index glass at all times at Sea, was communicated to me by Mr. John Adams, Teacher of the Mathematicks at Edmonton.

vane at the moon, or any bright star, so as to see the reflected image in the horizon-glass, and the object, at the same time, through the unsilvered part; then move the index backwards and forwards slowly, and observe if the image and the object pass directly over each other, if they do, the axes are parallel; but if one pass to the right, and the other to the left, then put your thumb upon the horizon-glass, and press it a little, looking still at the object, and you will immediately see which way it wants to be adjusted, and may adjust it accordingly by the screws on the adjusting plate. This is a nice, though very necessary adjustment, and requires care and patience, for a small turn of the screws will cause a considerable variation in the axis.

I would advise the mariner to have a small piece of coloured glass, set in brass, to slide over the sight vane occasionally, to guard the eye, and then this verification may be commodiously made by the sun as well as the moon or star; for the screens must be turned back, that the object and reflected image may be seen nearly equally distinct; Or a coloured glass fixed in a frame, to turn up against the back of the horizon-glass (which is commonly fixed to sextants) will have the same effect.

Thirdly, The index error. This adjustment is well known by those who use this instrument. The common mode of performing it is thus, bring 0 on the Nonius exactly to 0 on the arch, then looking directly through the sight vane at the horizon; if the reflected horizon appear in the horizon-glass, higher or lower than the horizon seen directly through the unsilvered part; you then, by moving the brass lever fixed at the back of the instrument to the horizon-glass, bring both the reflected and direct horizon to appear as but one line. These three adjustments being made, the instrument is completely rectified or adjusted for any observation.

The index error may be more accurately determined thus: slide on the coloured glass before mentioned upon the sight vane, put the screens back, and measure the diameter of the sun, that is, bring the upper limb to coincide with the lower, if it measure 32 minutes * there is little or no index error; but if it measure less, add the difference to any angle you measure; if more, subtract the difference from any angle you measure, the sum, or difference respectively, will be the true angle or altitude.

E X A M P L E.

Suppose the sun's diameter measures 28 minutes, and the altitude taken by the instrument be 34d. 10m. then add the error 4m. (the difference between 32m. and 28m. the altitude will

* The sun's diameter in January is about 32 minutes and half, in July about 31 minutes and half, and in April and October 32 minutes nearly.

will be 34d. 14m. but had the diameter measured 36m. then the difference 4m. must have been subtracted, and the altitude would be 34d. 6m.

To take an Altitude of the Sun by the fore Observation.

The sun is generally bright enough to be seen by reflection from the polished surface of the unsilvered part of the horizon-glass; therefore look through the outer hole in the sight vane, having put one of the screens down in its place to guard the eye. Hold the instrument vertical, and turning yourself towards the sun, direct the sight to that part of the horizon which is under the sun; then move the index forwards 'till you see the red image of the sun come down towards the horizon. If you meet with any difficulty in finding the red image of the sun turn the screen back, and the sun's image will be so bright you cannot miss it; and you may then put the screen in its proper place again. Having brought the image down near to the horizon, swing the octant backward and forwards, making your eye the centre of motion, moving the index forward at the same time, 'till the lower limb of the sun just sweeps the horizon, and you will have the apparant altitude of the sun's lower limb upon the arch of the quadrant at that instant. But the meridian, or greatest altitude, is that, from which the latitude is to be determined, which is exactly at noon or 12 o'clock. Now, if you have adjusted your watch by an altitude of the sun, and have not sailed considerably to the Eastward or Westward, you may know exactly when to take the meridian altitude. But supposing you have sailed a degree directly East or West, it will make but 4 minutes difference between your watch and the sun, and much time may be saved in waiting to observe the greatest altitude; besides your instrument will not be so long exposed to the weather and sun, as is too commonly the case. Having found the apparant altitude of the sun's lower limb, the following corrections must be applied:

First. The index error, if any, to be added or subtracted, as taught in the third correction of the instrument.

Secondly. The dip of the horizon to be subtracted.

Thirdly. The sun's semidiameter 16 minutes, nearly to be added.

These three corrections give the apparant altitude of the sun's centre, to which apply the correction for refraction, and you will have the true altitude of the sun's centre very nearly, the correction for the sun's parallex being so small, that it may always be neglected.

There being no easy practical method, at sea, to adjust the axis of the back horizon-glass parallel to the axis of the index-glass;

glafs; therefore, we fuppofe it to be as truly placed by the maker as he can, the following method will fo far verify and adjust it, as to make it fometimes ufeful when the fore obfervation cannot be had on account of land being in the way, or when a very obfcure horizon for the fore obfervation makes the back obfervation more eligible.*

At any time when you have a clear horizon, both for the fore and back obfervation, take the altitude of the fun's lower limb by the fore obfervation, fix the index, fhift the fcreens to the back horizon-glafs, turn immediately round, and ufe the back fight vane and horizon-glafs; then, if the upper limb of the fun (in the obfervation it will appear to you to be the lower limb) appear to fwEEP the horizon, the back horizon-glafs is true; if not, adjust it by its lever. Repeat this feveral times near noon when the fun does not rife or fall very faft; thus your instrument will be nearly adjusted, and ready for an obfervation when requifite.

The back obfervation is managed exactly in the fame manner as the fore obfervation, only the back muft be turned towards the fun, the fcreens fhifted to that horizon-glafs, and the femidiameter of the fun muft be fubtracted (if the apparent lower limb be taken) and the dip added, to find the apparent altitude of the fun's centre; from which fubtract the effect of refraction, and you will have the true altitude nearly.

There is generally a fmall piece of brafs, fixed to flop the index where 0 on the Nonius fhould coincide with 0 on the arch, which is feldom placed exact; I would therefore advife the mariner to turn it down out of the way, and truft to his own care in the correction of his instrument; befides, if this be away, the correction may be very accurately eftimated by taking the diameter of the fun, moon, or any object before and behind 0 on the arch; that is, firft bring the upper limb of the object to coincide with the lower, and note the angle; then take it on the extra arch, as it is called, that is, bring the lower limb to coincide with the upper, and note the angle: Half the difference of thefe two angles will be the true correction of the index error.

EXAMPLE.

Suppofe the moon's diameter meafures 35m. on the arch, and 28m. on the extra arch. the difference is 7m. half of which is 3½m. to be fubtracted for the error, becaufe the diameter meafures more on the arch, or gives the moon's diameter too much; but had the extra arch given the greater angle, the error would have been additive.

* By the improvement I have lately made to my Patent Octant, the back obfervation is adjusted in the manner of a fore one, and alfo rendered as eafy in its ufe; a defcription of which I have publifhed as an Appendix to this Book.

To take the Altitude of the Moon.

The moon's altitude may be taken either by the fore or back observation, exactly in the same manner as the sun's altitude, only here you must bring that edge of the moon into contact with the horizon, which is round and well defined, whether that be the upper or under edge. The corrections to be applied to the observed altitude are as follow:

First. The index error, as before directed. -

Secondly. The dip to be subtracted in the fore observation, but added in the back observation.

Thirdly. Semidiameter, to be found in the Nautical Ephemeris for every noon and midnight at Greenwich. If very great accuracy is required, this semidiameter must be corrected for the intermediate time and for the altitude by the rule in page 16, of the tables belonging to the Nautical Ephemeris.

Fourthly. Refraction, to be found and applied as before.

Fifthly. Parallax. The moon's horizontal parallax for every noon and midnight at Greenwich, is to be found in the Nautical Ephemeris. When nicety is required, this must be corrected for all intermediate times by the rule in page 16, of the Requisite Tables belonging to the Ephemeris. The moon's horizontal parallax being thus obtained, the moon's parallax in altitude may be found therefrom, by page 16 of the tables aforesaid, and is to be added.

To take the Altitude of a star by the fore Observation.

Set the index at 0, and, holding the plane of the octant vertical, direct the sight to the star, and at the same time look for the reflected image of the star in the silvered part of the horizon glass. Move the index a little, which will separate the reflected image from the direct image; the former will be easily distinguished from the latter by its motion when you first move the index, and as you advance the index, at the same time follow the reflected image of the star with your eye, directing the sight lower and lower, and changing the position of the octant as the image of the star descends, till you have brought it down to the horizon: the index will then show the observed altitude of the star.

The corrections to be applied to the observed altitude of a star are first the index error. Secondly the dip. These two give the apparent altitude. Thirdly, the refraction, which gives the true altitude. The fixed stars have neither semidiameter nor parallax.

In taking the altitude of a star or the moon by night, always get as near the water as possible. In easy weather a grating may be slung over the ship's side, and the observer sit upon it to take the altitudes. The same may be done to take the altitude of the sun in a hazy horizon, for the nearer the eye is to the surface of the water, the nearer the true horizon will be to the eye.

*Rules for finding the Latitude from the SUN'S
ZENITH, DISTANCE and DECLINATION
at Noon given.*

THE SUN'S Declination admits of two Denominations, that is, North and South. So likewise does the Sun's Zenith Distance, for the Sun comes to the Meridian either northward or southward of the Zenith. The Latitude also admits of the same Variation in its Denomination. This being premised, the following Rules may be easily understood.

RULE I. If the Zenith Distance and Declination are of different Denominations, their Sum will give the Latitude whose Denomination will be the same as that of the Declination.

RULE II. If the Zenith Distance and the Declination are both of the same Denomination, their Difference will give the Latitude, whose Denomination will be the same with that of the Zenith Distance and Declination, if the Declination is greater then the Zenith Distance. But if the Zenith Distance is greatest, the Latitude will be of a contrary Denomination.

The two following Rules serve to find the Latitude of the Place from the Altitude and Declination at Noon given.

RULE III. If the Altitude and Declination are of different Denominations, add 90 Degrees to the Declination, and from that Sum subtract the Altitude; the remainder is the Latitude of the same Denomination as the Declination.

RULE IV. If the Altitude and Declination are of a like Denomination, add the Declination to the Altitude, and subtract that Sum from 90 Degrees; if it be less, the remainder will be the Latitude of a contrary Denomination. But if it exceeds 90 Degrees; that excess will be the Latitude, whose Denomination will be the same as that of the Altitude and Declination.

DEGREES OF LONGITUDE.

Daily Varia.	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	140	150	160	170
Min.	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
4	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2
5	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
6	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
7	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3
8	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	4
9	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	4
10	0	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	5
11	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	5	5	5
12	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	5	5	5	6
13	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	5	5	5	6	6
14	0	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	6	6	7
15	0	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	6	6	7	7
16	0	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	8
17	0	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	7	7	8
18	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	7	7	8	9
19	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	7	7	8	9
20	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	6	6	7	7	8	8	9	9
21	1	1	2	2	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	8	8	9	9	10
22	1	1	2	2	3	4	4	5	6	6	7	7	8	9	9	10	10
23	1	1	2	3	3	4	4	5	6	6	7	8	8	9	10	10	11
24	1	1	2	3	3	4	4	5	6	7	7	8	9	9	10	11	11

The sun's declination in the following tables being calculated for the meridian of *London*, if you should be considerably to the Eastward, or to the Westward of *London*, it will cause some alteration; to correct which, the above Table of variation of the sun's declination to every 10 degrees of Longitude is to be used, as follows:

First, Look out the declination for the given day of the month, and for the day following it, and subtract the less from the greater, the remainder is the daily variation.

Second, Observe whether the declination be increasing or decreasing which you may know thus; if the declination for the day following given day be biggest, then it is increasing; but if it be less, it is decreasing,

Third, Look for the daily variation in the first column of the table, and see what number stands right against it, and under the given degrees of longitude, which number is to be used as follows.

If the difference of longitude be Easterly, and the declination increasing, it must be subtracted from the declination found in the tables for the given day; but if the declination be decreasing, it must be added.

If the difference of longitude be Westerly, and the declination, increasing, it must be added; but if the declination be decreasing, it must be subtracted; the sum in one case, and the remainder in the other will be the sun's declination at noon in the longitude required.

A TABLE

A TABLE of the Sun's Declination, for the FIRST Year after LEAP Year.

	S.	S.	S.	N.	N.	N.	N.	N.	N.	S.	S.	S.
Days	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.
1	23 00	16 54	7 24	4 43	15 13	22 8	23 8	17 59	8 10	3 20	14 36	21 55
2	22 54	16 41	7 1	5 6	15 31	22 16	23 4	17 44	7 49	3 44	14 55	22 4
3	22 48	16 23	6 38	5 29	15 48	22 23	22 59	17 28	7 27	4 7	15 14	22 13
4	22 42	16 5	6 15	5 52	16 5	22 30	22 54	17 12	7 5	4 30	15 33	22 21
5	22 35	15 46	5 52	6 15	16 23	22 37	22 48	16 56	6 42	4 54	15 51	22 29
6	22 28	15 28	5 29	6 37	16 40	22 43	22 42	16 39	6 20	5 17	16 9	22 36
7	22 20	15 10	5 6	7 0	16 56	22 49	22 36	16 22	5 57	5 40	16 27	22 43
8	22 12	14 51	4 42	7 22	17 13	22 55	22 29	16 5	5 35	6 3	16 44	22 49
9	22 4	14 31	4 19	7 45	17 29	23 0	22 15	15 48	5 12	6 26	17 1	22 55
10	21 55	14 12	3 55	8 7	17 44	23 5	22 15	15 31	4 49	6 48	17 18	23 0
11	21 45	13 52	3 32	8 29	18 0	23 9	22 7	15 13	4 26	7 11	17 35	23 5
12	21 35	13 32	3 8	8 51	18 15	23 13	21 58	14 55	4 3	7 34	17 51	23 10
13	21 25	13 12	2 44	9 13	18 30	23 16	21 50	14 36	3 40	7 56	18 7	23 14
14	21 14	12 51	2 21	9 34	18 44	23 19	21 41	14 18	3 17	8 19	18 23	23 17
15	21 3	12 31	1 57	9 55	18 59	23 22	21 31	13 59	2 54	8 41	18 38	23 20
16	20 52	12 11	1 33	10 17	19 13	23 24	21 22	13 40	2 31	9 3	18 53	23 23
17	20 40	11 50	1 10	10 38	19 26	23 26	21 11	13 21	2 7	9 25	19 8	23 25
18	20 28	11 28	0 46	10 59	19 39	23 27	21 1	13 2	1 44	9 47	19 23	23 27
19	20 15	11 6	0 22	11 20	19 52	23 28	20 50	12 42	1 21	10 9	19 37	23 28
20	20 2	10 45	0	11 40	20 5	23 29	20 38	12 22	0 57	10 31	19 50	23 29
21	19 49	10 23	0 25	12 1	20 17	23 29	20 27	12 2	0 34	10 52	20 4	23 29
22	19 35	10 1	0 49	12 21	20 29	23 29	20 15	11 42	0 11	11 13	20 17	23 29
23	19 21	9 39	1 12	12 41	20 41	23 28	20 3	11 22	0 13	11 34	20 29	23 28
24	19 6	9 17	1 36	13 1	20 52	23 27	19 51	11 1	0 36	11 55	20 41	23 27
25	18 50	8 55	2 0	13 20	21 3	23 26	19 38	10 40	1 0	12 16	20 53	23 25
26	18 36	8 32	2 23	13 39	21 13	23 24	19 25	10 19	1 23	12 37	21 4	23 23
27	18 21	8 10	2 47	13 59	21 23	23 21	19 11	9 58	1 46	12 57	21 15	23 21
28	18 5	7 47	3 10	14 18	21 33	23 19	18 57	9 37	2 10	13 17	21 26	23 18
29	17 49		3 33	14 36	21 42	23 15	18 43	9 16	2 33	13 37	21 36	23 14
30	17 32		3 57	14 55	21 51	23 12	18 29	8 54	2 56	13 57	21 46	23 10
31	17 15		4 20		22 0		18 18	8 32		14 17		23 6

A TABLE of the Sun's Declination, for the SECOND Year after LEAP Year.

Days	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.
1	23 1	17 2	7 29	4 38	15 8	22 6	23 8	18 2	8 16	3 15	14 32	21 53
2	22 55	16 44	7 6	5 1	15 26	22 14	23 2	17 46	7 53	3 39	14 51	22 2
3	22 49	16 27	6 43	5 24	15 44	22 21	22 59	17 31	7 31	4 2	15 9	22 10
4	22 43	16 9	6 20	5 47	16 1	22 28	22 54	17 15	7 9	4 25	15 28	22 29
5	22 36	15 50	5 57	6 9	16 19	22 35	22 48	16 50	6 47	4 48	15 46	22 26
6	22 29	15 32	5 34	6 32	16 36	22 42	22 43	16 42	6 25	5 11	16 5	22 34
7	22 22	15 13	5 11	6 55	16 52	22 48	22 37	16 26	6 2	5 35	16 22	22 41
8	22 13	14 54	4 47	7 17	17 9	22 53	22 30	16 9	5 39	5 57	16 40	22 47
9	22 5	14 35	4 24	7 39	17 25	22 58	22 24	15 51	5 17	6 20	16 57	22 53
10	21 56	14 16	4 0	8 2	17 40	23 3	22 15	15 34	4 54	6 43	17 14	22 58
11	21 47	13 56	3 37	8 24	17 56	23 7	22 8	15 16	4 31	7 6	17 31	23 4
12	21 34	13 36	3 13	8 46	18 11	23 11	22 0	14 58	4 8	7 29	17 47	23 8
13	21 27	13 16	2 50	9 7	18 26	23 15	21 51	14 40	3 45	7 51	18 3	23 12
14	21 16	12 56	2 26	9 29	18 41	23 18	21 44	14 21	3 22	8 14	18 19	23 16
15	21 5	12 35	2 2	9 50	18 55	23 20	21 33	14 3	2 59	8 36	18 34	23 19
16	20 54	12 14	1 39	10 12	19 9	23 23	21 23	13 44	2 36	8 58	18 50	23 22
17	20 42	11 43	1 15	10 33	19 23	23 25	21 13	13 25	2 13	9 20	19 5	23 24
18	20 30	11 32	0 51	10 54	19 36	23 26	21 3	13 6	1 45	9 42	19 19	23 26
19	20 17	11 11	0 28	11 15	19 46	23 27	20 52	12 46	1 26	10 4	19 33	23 27
20	20 4	10 49	0 4	11 35	20 1	23 28	20 41	12 26	1 2	10 26	19 37	23 28
21	19 51	10 28	0 20	11 56	20 14	23 29	20 30	12 6	0 39	10 47	20 0	23 29
22	19 37	10 6	0 44	12 16	20 26	23 28	20 18	11 46	0 16	11 8	20 13	23 28
23	19 23	9 44	1 7	12 36	20 37	23 28	20 5	11 26	0 8	11 30	20 26	23 28
24	19 9	9 22	1 31	12 56	20 49	23 27	19 53	11 5	0 31	11 51	20 38	23 27
25	18 54	9 0	1 54	13 15	21 0	23 25	19 44	10 44	0 55	12 11	20 50	23 25
26	18 39	8 37	2 18	13 35	21 10	23 24	19 28	10 24	1 18	12 32	21 2	23 24
27	18 24	8 15	2 41	13 54	21 20	23 21	19 14	10 34	1 42	12 53	21 13	23 21
28	18 8	7 52	3 5	14 13	21 30	23 19	19 1	9 42	2 5	13 13	21 23	23 19
29	17 52		3 28	14 31	21 39	23 16	18 46	9 20	2 28	13 33	21 33	23 16
30	17 35		3 51	14 50	21 48	23 12	18 32	8 59	2 52	13 52	21 43	23 12
31	17 18		4 15		21 57		18 17	8 37		14 12		23 7

A TABLE of the Sun's Declination, for the THIRD Year after LEAP Year.

Days	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.
1	23 3	17 6	7 35	4 32	15 4	22 4	23 9	18 6	8 21	3 9	14 27	21 51
2	22 57	16 49	7 12	4 55	15 22	22 12	23 1	17 50	7 59	3 33	14 46	22 0
3	22 51	16 31	6 49	5 18	15 40	22 19	23 0	17 35	7 37	3 56	15 5	22 8
4	22 44	16 13	6 26	5 41	15 57	22 27	22 55	17 19	7 15	4 19	15 23	22 17
5	22 37	15 59	6 3	6 4	16 14	22 33	22 49	17 3	6 52	4 42	15 42	22 24
6	22 31	15 37	5 40	6 27	16 32	22 40	22 45	16 47	6 30	5 6	16 0	22 32
7	22 24	15 18	5 17	6 49	16 48	22 46	22 38	16 30	6 7	5 29	16 18	22 39
8	22 15	14 59	4 53	7 11	17 4	22 52	22 32	16 13	5 45	5 52	16 36	22 45
9	22 7	14 40	4 36	7 34	17 21	22 57	22 26	15 56	5 22	6 15	16 53	22 51
10	21 58	14 20	4 6	7 56	17 36	23 2	22 17	15 38	5 0	6 37	17 10	22 57
11	21 50	14 2	3 43	8 18	17 52	23 7	22 10	15 21	4 37	7 6	17 27	23 3
12	21 40	13 42	3 19	8 40	18 8	23 10	22 2	15 3	4 14	7 23	17 43	23 7
13	21 29	13 22	2 56	9 2	18 22	23 14	21 53	14 45	3 51	7 46	17 59	23 11
14	21 19	13 1	2 13	9 24	18 37	23 17	21 44	14 26	3 28	8 8	18 15	23 15
15	21 8	12 40	2 8	9 45	18 52	23 20	21 35	14 7	3 5	8 30	18 30	23 18
16	20 57	12 20	1 45	10 7	19 6	23 23	21 26	13 49	2 42	8 53	18 46	23 22
17	20 45	11 59	1 21	10 28	19 19	23 25	21 16	13 30	2 18	9 15	19 1	23 24
18	20 33	11 37	0 57	11 40	19 33	23 26	21 5	13 10	1 55	9 37	19 15	23 25
19	20 20	11 16	0 33	11 9	19 45	23 27	20 54	12 51	1 32	9 58	19 29	23 27
20	20 7	10 55	0 10	11 30	19 58	23 28	20 43	12 31	1 8	10 20	19 43	23 28
21	19 55	10 33	0 14	11 51	20 11	23 29	20 33	12 11	0 45	10 42	19 57	23 29
22	19 41	10 11	0 38	12 11	20 23	23 28	20 21	11 51	0 21	11 3	20 10	23 28
23	19 27	9 49	1 1	12 31	20 35	23 28	20 9	11 31	0 2	11 24	20 23	23 28
24	19 12	9 27	1 25	12 51	20 46	23 27	19 56	11 10	0 25	11 45	20 35	23 27
25	18 7	9 5	1 48	13 10	20 57	23 26	19 43	10 50	0 49	12 6	20 47	23 26
26	18 43	8 43	2 12	13 30	21 7	23 24	19 32	10 29	1 12	12 27	20 59	23 25
27	18 28	8 20	2 35	13 49	21 17	23 22	19 19	10 8	1 36	12 48	21 10	23 23
28	18 12	7 58	2 59	14 8	21 27	23 20	19 5	9 47	1 59	13 8	21 21	23 20
29	17 56		3 22	14 27	21 36	23 16	18 51	9 25	2 23	13 28	21 31	23 18
30	17 39		3 45	14 46	21 45	23 13	18 36	9 4	2 46	13 47	21 40	23 14
31	17 22		4 9		21 54		18 21	8 42		14 7		23 9

A TABLE of the Sun's Declination, for the LEAP Years

1784, 1788, 1792, 1796, 1800, 1804, 1808.

Days	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.	d. m.
1	23 4	17 10	7 18	4 49	15 17	22 10	23 6	17 54	8 4	3 27	14 41	21 57
2	22 58	16 53	6 55	5 12	15 35	22 17	23 4	17 38	7 42	3 30	15 0	22 6
3	22 52	16 35	6 32	5 35	15 53	22 25	22 57	17 23	7 20	4 13	15 19	22 14
4	22 46	16 17	6 9	5 58	16 10	22 32	22 52	17 7	6 58	4 37	15 37	22 23
5	22 39	15 59	5 46	6 21	16 27	22 38	22 47	16 51	6 36	5 0	15 56	22 30
6	22 33	15 42	5 22	6 43	16 44	22 44	22 40	16 34	6 13	5 23	16 13	22 37
7	22 26	15 23	4 59	7 6	17 0	22 50	22 33	16 17	5 50	5 46	16 31	22 44
8	22 17	15 4	4 35	7 28	17 17	22 56	22 27	16 0	5 28	6 9	16 49	22 50
9	22 9	14 45	4 12	7 51	17 33	23 1	22 21	15 43	5 5	6 32	17 6	22 56
10	22 0	14 25	3 49	8 13	17 48	23 5	22 12	15 25	4 43	6 55	17 23	23 1
11	21 52	14 7	3 25	8 55	18 3	23 9	22 3	15 7	4 20	7 17	17 39	23 6
12	21 42	13 47	3 1	8 56	18 19	23 13	21 55	14 49	3 57	7 40	17 55	23 10
13	21 32	13 27	2 38	9 18	18 33	23 17	21 47	14 31	3 33	8 2	18 11	23 14
14	21 21	13 6	2 14	9 40	18 48	23 20	21 38	14 12	3 11	8 25	18 27	23 17
15	21 10	12 46	1 51	10 1	19 2	23 22	21 28	13 54	2 47	8 47	18 42	23 21
16	21 0	12 25	1 27	10 22	19 16	23 24	21 18	13 34	2 24	9 9	18 57	23 23
17	20 48	12 4	1 3	10 43	19 39	23 26	21 8	13 15	2 1	9 31	19 12	23 25
18	20 36	11 43	0 39	11 4	19 42	23 27	20 57	12 56	1 38	9 53	19 26	23 27
19	20 23	11 22	0 16	11 25	19 53	23 28	20 41	12 36	1 14	10 15	19 40	23 28
20	20 19	11 0	0 8	11 46	20 8	23 29	20 35	12 16	0 51	10 36	19 54	23 28
21	19 58	10 39	0 42	12 6	20 20	23 28	20 23	11 56	0 27	10 58	20 27	23 29
22	19 44	10 17	0 55	12 26	20 32	23 28	20 12	11 36	0 4	11 19	20 19	23 28
23	19 30	9 55	1 19	12 46	20 43	23 27	19 59	11 16	0 19	11 40	20 32	23 27
24	19 16	9 33	1 43	13 6	20 44	23 26	19 47	10 55	0 43	12 1	20 44	23 26
25	19 1	9 10	2 6	13 25	21 5	23 25	19 34	10 34	1 6	12 22	20 56	23 24
26	18 47	8 48	2 30	13 40	21 16	23 22	19 20	10 13	1 30	12 42	21 7	23 21
27	18 32	8 26	2 53	14 3	21 26	23 20	19 6	9 52	1 53	13 3	21 18	23 19
28	18 16	8 4	3 16	14 23	21 35	23 17	18 52	9 31	2 17	13 23	21 28	23 16
29	18 0	7 42	3 40	14 41	21 45	23 14	18 38	9 0	2 40	13 43	21 39	23 11
30	17 43	1 4	3	14 59	21 54	23 10	18 24	18 48	3 4	14 2	21 48	23 8
31	17 26	1 4	26		22 2		18 9	18 26		14 22		23 3

A TABLE of Refractions
to be subtracted from the
Altitude.

A TABLE of the
Moon's Parallaxes
to be added to her
Altitudes

Al. D.	Refract.		Al. D.	Refract.		Al. D.	Refract.	
	Min.	Sec.		Min.	Sec.		Min.	Sec.
1	27	56	31	1	38	61	0	33
2	21	4	32	1	34	62	0	31
3	16	6	33	1	30	63	0	30
4	12	48	34	1	27	64	0	28
5	10	32	35	1	23	65	0	27
6	8	55	36	1	20	66	0	26
7	7	44	37	1	18	67	0	25
8	6	47	38	1	15	68	0	24
9	6	4	39	1	12	69	0	22
10	5	28	40	1	10	70	0	21
11	4	58	41	1	7	71	0	20
12	4	32	42	1	5	72	0	19
13	4	12	43	1	3	73	0	18
14	3	54	44	1	1	74	0	17
15	3	38	45	0	59	75	0	16
16	3	24	46	0	58	76	0	14
17	3	11	47	0	36	77	0	13
18	3	0	48	0	54	78	0	12
19	2	49	49	0	52	79	0	11
20	2	39	50	0	50	80	0	10
21	2	31	51	0	49	81	0	9
22	2	25	52	0	47	82	0	8
23	2	18	53	0	45	83	0	7
24	2	12	54	0	43	84	0	6
25	2	6	55	0	41	85	0	5
26	2	0	56	0	40	86	0	4
27	1	55	57	0	38	87	0	3
28	1	51	58	0	37	88	0	2
29	1	46	59	0	35	89	0	1
30	1	42	60	0	34	90	0	0

Al. D.	Pa. M.	Al. D.	Pa. M.	Al. D.	Pa. M.
1	58	31	50	61	28
2	58	32	49	62	27
3	58	33	49	63	26
4	58	34	48	64	25
5	58	35	48	65	25
6	58	36	47	66	24
7	58	37	47	67	23
8	58	38	46	68	22
9	58	39	45	69	21
10	57	40	45	70	20
11	57	41	44	71	19
12	57	42	44	72	18
13	57	43	43	73	17
14	57	44	42	74	16
15	56	45	41	75	15
16	56	46	40	76	14
17	56	47	40	77	13
18	56	48	39	78	12
19	55	49	38	79	11
20	55	50	37	80	10
21	55	51	37	81	9
22	54	52	36	82	8
23	54	53	35	83	7
24	53	54	34	84	6
25	53	55	33	85	5
26	52	56	32	86	4
27	52	57	32	87	3
28	51	58	31	88	2
29	51	59	30	89	1
30	56	60	29	90	0

A P P E N D I X.

The DESCRIPTION of a New, Easy, and Accurate Method for adjusting the Back Observation Glass of WRIGHT'S IMPROVED PATENT OCTANT, and the Method of using it in taking the apparent Altitude of the Sun at Sea, and measuring Angular Distances from 0 to 180°

Fig. 1. **I**S a representation of the Octant complete in all its parts for use.

A. The reflecting surface of the index glass, which is made of the usual length, and $\frac{9}{10}$ of an inch broad.

The bottom part is covered in front by the brass frame and the reflecting surface is $\frac{7}{10}$ on the back,

B. The fore horizon glass placed as usual,

O. The back horizon glass, now placed under the fore sight vane on the first radius of the Octant I.

C. The sight vane of the fore horizon glass.

D. The sight vane of the back horizon glass.

E. The *three* shades or screen glasses in a brass frame, in the proper place for a fore observation of the sun, &c.

F. A hole made in the frame to receive the screen glasses, when an observation is taken with the back horizon glass in the common way, by turning your back to the sun.

G. A hole in the frame on the farthest radius K, to receive the screen glasses when you take an observation of the sun's altitude by the *new method*, which is, by looking through the lower hole in the sight vane of the back horizon glass, directly at the sun in the line of sight DN, the horizon from behind will then be reflected from the back of the index glass to the horizon glass, and from thence to the eye. See fig. 5.

H. A brass clamp on the upper end of the index; having a milled screw underneath which fastens the round plate to the index when required. See fig. 2.

IK. The graduated arch of the Octant divided into 90 degrees.

L. The brass index which moves over the graduated arch.

M. The Nonius (or Vernier) graduated on the bottom of the index to subdivide the divisions on the arch into single minutes of a degree.

Fig. 2. Shews the upper part of the index L on a larger scale, with part of the brass frame that fastens the index glass, and the three adjusting screws D, to adjust its axis verticle to the plane of the Octant, B the center on which the milled plate O moves over the index, the dotted line BF is the distance it is required to move, K the adjusting screw to stop it in its proper place for adjusting the back observation glass, G a piece of brass fastened to the index opposite to the clamp H, to keep the plate O always close to the index L.

Fig. 3. Represents the parallel position of the index and horizon glasses after adjustment by the sun, BC a ray from the sun falling on the center of the index glass C, and from thence reflected to D, the center of the fore horizon glass, from which glass it is again reflected to the eye at E in the line DE, where the eye sees the sun at A by direct vision, and the image by reflection in one; the parallel lines A and B being so near to each other, that no apparent angle can be observed in the planes of the index and horizon glass, when adjusted by an object at a distance.

Fig. 4. Here the index glass is removed 45 degrees from the plane of the fore horizon glass, and in its proper place for adjusting the back horizon glass parallel to its plane, in the manner of a fore horizon glass; this is clearly shewn by inspection of the figure, where all the lines and letters appear exactly similar to those in fig. 3; the only difference is, the parallel lines AB are at a greater distance, for reasons too obvious to mention.

Fig. 5. Here the index glass (after the adjustment of the fore and back horizon glasses) is carried forward by the index on the arch 90 degrees, and makes an angle to the plane of the fore horizon glass of 45°, and at right angles to the plane of the back horizon glass; the eye at E now sees the sun in the horizon at H, reflected by the index and horizon glasses from the zenith at Z, the image and object being 90° distant, as shewn by the vertical and horizontal lines ZA and HA, which meet in A, and form the right-angled triangle ZAH. The back horizon K is now reflected from the back surface of the index glass C, to the horizon glass M, and again from thence to the eye at D, in a right line with the fore horizon F, and 180 degrees from F to K, the lines IK and FD being parallel; now to make an exact contact of the fore and back horizon at F, the index must be advanced beyond the 90° on the arch, by reason

reason of the spherical figure of the earth, and the height of the observer's eye above the level of the sea, which is called the *dip*, and is usually allowed for by tables; but it being known to vary very much by the difference of the refraction, which is different in a moist and dry air, it also alters by heat and cold, and many other causes, and is very different in different latitudes, it will therefore be found more correct to get it by actual measurement of the fore and back horizon, by a *back observation* (immediately after taking the sun's altitude) and the arch being a supplement, the excess of 90° will be double the dip.

To adjust the Octant for a Fore Observation.

You first see that the index glass is in its proper place, as shewn by fig. 2, and there made fast by the milled screw at H, the remainder of the adjustment is then managed in every respect the same as the fore observation of a common constructed Hadley's Quadrant, which, when adjusted, the glasses have the position of fig. 3.

To adjust the Back Observation.

Fasten the index to 90° on the arch, and there let it remain; the horizon glass must also remain fast in its place; loosen the screw H, fig. 2, and turn the plate O by the milled edge for the end of the adjusting screw K, to touch against the edge of the clamp M, and see (by observation of a distant object) that the glasses are then parallel as at fig. 3, if they are make fast the screw H, if not, with a screw driver turn the screw K gently to the right or left, to make them perfect, before you fasten the screw.* You then remove the index back to the O which carries the index glass backwards 45° from its adjustment with the fore horizon glass, to a parallel position with the back horizon glass E, fig. 4; if not, adjust the glass E to make them so, while you look through the upper hole in the sight vane D in the line of sight DN, fig. 1, at the sun, moon, or horizon; this done let the index remain at O, and the index glass be returned again to stop at the pin E, its first adjustment with the fore horizon glass, fig. 3, and the Octant is ready for observation by either the fore or back horizon glasses; now make use of the lower hole in the sight vane D, and both occasionally for the fore observation C.

To

* This last adjustment of the screw K we make perfectly correct before the Octants go out of our hands, and from the care in fixing, and the situation it is placed in, it is almost impossible it should alter afterwards, but for fear of accident, I have been thus particular in my directions for adjusting it.

To take a Back Observation.

To take a back observation of the sun's altitude, you remove the screen glasses to G, fig. 1, and look through the lower hole in the sight vane D, in the line of direction DN, directly up at the sun, through the screen glass or glasses turned down to save the eye, and move the index forward on the arch exactly the same as for a fore observation, and make the contact with the sun's upper limb and the back horizon, which you now see by reflection inverted, and the degrees and minutes by the Nonius on the arch is the zenith distance, to which you add the sun's Semidiameter. *Note.* If you measure from the lower limb of the sun, the semidiameter must be subtracted, and from either the dip is subtracted also. If you take the observation in the usual way, by turning the back to the sun, shift the screen glasses to F, and follow the directions given with the common Hadley's Quadrant, you will take this observation much easier and better by this Octant than the common ones, for here you keep the Octant in your right hand, and move the index on the arch forwards likewise.

The observer will take notice, that if the axis of the glasses are fixed truly perpendicular to the plane of the instrument, that it is not absolutely necessary to have them adjusted truly parallel in their planes before an observation is taken (should there not be time for it) but after the observation to find the error if any, by the method now much in use by the best observers, called the Index Error, and described in the best books on the use of Hadley's Quadrant.

The Octant may now be said to be universal, as it is equally applicable for measuring angular distances from 90° to 180° , as it before was, from 0° to 90° , and by an artificial horizon made from the reflecting surface of quicksilver, or any other horizontal reflecting plane, the altitude of objects on shore can always be taken; also the sun's altitude at all times of the year and in all latitudes, which could not be done if the sun at any time exceeded 60° by the common constructed Sextants and Quadrants, the surveyor will likewise find it the most useful and best adapted instrument (if made of a small radius) for his purpose.

The price of the Patent Octant, with the above improvements complete, in ebony frames, as

represented in fig. 1	—	£ 3 13 6
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